

We claim:

1. A method in a computing environment for determining the work for one or more patients, the method comprising:

obtaining data for one or more patients directly from the primary clinical information system; and

utilizing the data to calculate a work score for the one or more patients.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a request for a work score for the one or more patients.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising:

obtaining factors that indicate work for the one or more patients.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

determining which of the factors are triggered by the data for the one or more patients.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein each factor has one or more assigned values.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising:

adjusting the value of one or more triggered factors based on rules if needed.

7. The method of claim 5, further comprising:

obtaining rules for generating a work score for each of the one or more patients.

8. The method of claim 7, further comprising:

utilizing the rules and triggered factor values to generate a work score for each of the one or more patients.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the data is one of outstanding orders, outstanding tasks, completed orders, completed tasks, services provided by personnel over a period of time, scheduled procedures, scheduled outpatient care, assigned tasks, assigned orders, assessments, tasks, services typically delivered for a specific patient or patient type and combinations thereof.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the work score is prospective.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein the work score is retrospective.

12. A method in a computing environment for determining the work for a population of patients, the method comprising:

utilizing data obtained directly from the primary clinical information system to calculate a work score for each patient in a patient population; and

calculating staffing needs for the population based on the work scores obtained for the patients in the patient population.

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising:

receiving a request for the work for the patient population.

14. The method of claim 13, further comprising:  
determining the patients in the population.
15. The method of claim 14, further comprising:  
obtaining the work factors for the population.
16. The method of claim 15, further comprising:  
determining which of the factors are triggered by the data for each patient  
in the population.
17. The method of claim 15, wherein each factor has an assigned value.
18. The method of claim 17, further comprising:  
adjusting the value of one or more triggered factors if needed.
19. The method of claim 17, further comprising:  
obtaining rules for generating a work score for each patient in the  
population.
20. The method of claim 19, further comprising:  
utilizing the rules and triggered factor values to generate a work score for  
each patient in the population.
21. The method of claim 20, further comprising:  
accumulating the work scores for all patients in the population.
22. The method of claim 21, further comprising:  
obtaining staffing standards for the population.

23. The method of claim 22, further comprising:

calculating staffing needs based on the work scores obtained for the patients in the patient population and the staffing standards for the population.

24. The method of claim 12, wherein the data is one of outstanding orders, outstanding tasks, completed orders, completed tasks, services provided by personnel over a period of time, scheduled procedures, scheduled outpatient care, assigned tasks, assigned orders, assessments, tasks, services typically delivered for a specific patient or patient type and combinations thereof.

25. A computer system for determining the work for one or more patients, the system comprising:

means for obtaining data for one or more patients directly from the primary clinical information system; and

means for utilizing the data to calculate a work score for the one or more patients.

26. The system of claim 25, further comprising:

means for obtaining factors that indicate work for the one or more patients.

27. The system of claim 26, further comprising:

means for determining which of the factors are triggered by the data for the one or more patients.

28. The system of claim 27, further comprising:

means for obtaining rules for generating a work score for each of the one or more patients.

29. The system of claim 28, further comprising:

means for utilizing the rules and triggered factor values to generate a work score for each of the one or more patients.

30. A computer system for determining the work for a population of patients, the system comprising:

means for utilizing data obtained directly from the primary clinical information system to calculate a work score for each patient in a patient population; and

means for calculating staffing needs for the population based on the work scores obtained for the patients in the patient population.

31. The system of claim 30, further comprising:

means for determining the patients in the population.

32. The system of claim 31, further comprising:

means for obtaining the work factors for the population.

33. The system of claim 32, further comprising:

means for determining which of the factors are triggered by the data for each patient in the population.

34. The system of claim 33, further comprising:

means for obtaining rules for generating a work score for each patient in the population.

35. The system of claim 34, further comprising:

means for utilizing the rules and triggered factor values to generate a work score for each patient in the population.

36. The system of claim 35, further comprising:

means for accumulating the work scores for all patients in the population.

37. The system of claim 36, further comprising:

means for obtaining staffing standards for the population.

38. The system of claim 37, further comprising:

means for calculating staffing needs based on the work scores obtained for the patients in the patient population and the staffing standards for the population.

39. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method, the method comprising:

obtaining data for one or more patients directly from the primary clinical information system; and

utilizing the data to calculate work for the one or more patients.

40. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing a method, the method comprising:

utilizing data obtained directly from the primary clinical information system to calculate a work score for each patient in a patient population; and

calculating staffing needs for the population based on the work scores obtained for the patients in the patient population.

41. A computerized system for optimizing personnel planning in a healthcare organization, the system comprising:

a work calculation module for calculating a work score for one or more patients;

a staff scheduling and staffing module for identifying healthcare personnel positions to be filled;

role management module for managing the roles and information regarding personnel;

a workforce outcomes module for determining how effectively healthcare personnel have been used;

a demand forecast module for forecasting the volume and type of patients who will present; and

a resource dashboard module for displaying information regarding personnel and patients.

42. The system of claim 41, further comprising:

an enterprise scheduling module for identifying information regarding appointments for outpatient procedures.

43. The system of claim 42, further comprising:

a shift assignment module for displaying one of the capacity, availability and combinations thereof of personnel currently working.

44. The system of claim 43, further comprising:

a registration module for identifying and tracking patient registration, census and activity.

45. The system for claim 44, further comprising:

a medical records module for capturing and storing patient data.

46. The system of claim 45, further comprising:

a patient severity module for providing information regarding the status and conditions of patients.

47. The system of claim 46, further comprising:

a departmental tracking module for tracking patients through different departments.

48. The system of claim 47, further comprising:

a personal work queue module for tracking and displaying work to be performed by individual personnel.